

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-05

EB-07 IGA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /065 W

----- 083861

O R 051304Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9088

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

JCS WASHDC

CSA WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

CMC WASHDC

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

S E E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 BANGKOK 16076

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TH, ID, RP, KS, LA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF MILITARY ITEMS RECOVERED FROM  
CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM

REF: STATE 181057

1. IN COLLABORATION WITH MACTHAI, EMBASSY HAS PREPARED  
DETAILED COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS CONTAINED REFTEL. THESE  
WILL BE FOLLOWED BY GENERAL REMARKS. COMMENTS ARE KEYED  
TO PARAS OF REFTEL.

PARA 3. OF 22 UH-1 HELICOPTERS, ONLY 18 WERE TRANS-  
FERRED; REMAINING FOUR WERE REFUSED BY RTG BECAUSE OF  
EXTREMELY POOR CONDITION. THAI WOULD LIKE, AND WE  
RECOMMEND, TRANSFER OF THESE FOUR AIRCRAFT TO RTG

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FOR CANNIBALIZATION.

PARA 4 (A). ONLY ONE T-41D WAS RECOVERED FROM CAMBODIA. THE OTHER ONE WAS FRUSTRATED BEFORE DELIVERY AND HAS BEEN SHIPPED TO HONDURAS.

PARA 4 (B) AND (C). SEE "GENERAL COMMENTS", PARA 4 BELOW.

PARA 4 (D). OUR COUNT IS SEVEN C-47 AIRCRAFT, OF WHICH FOUR WERE RECOVERED FROM CAMBODIA AND THREE FROM VIETNAM. WE RECOMMEND FOUR FROM CAMBODIA BE OFFERED TO THAI FOR TRANSFER UNDER MAP REDISTRIBUTABLE PROCEDURES, "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" NO COST. THAI HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THESE FOUR AIRCRAFT, BUT HAVE NO REQUIREMENT FOR THE THREE FROM VIETNAM.

PARA 4 (E). WE HAVE INDICATIONS THAI WOULD LIKE TO KEEP ALL FOURTEEN U-17B AIRCRAFT. WE ARE NONETHE- LESS WILLING TO TRY TO GET THEM TO SETTLE FOR SEVEN. PROSPECTS WOULD BE ENHANCED IF THESE COULD BE OFFERED AT NO COST.

PARA 4 (F). TWO LCM-8'S HAVE BEEN BEACHED AT SATTAHIP UNDER RTN CONTROL FOR OVER THREE MONTHS AND ARE UNSERVICEABLE. BELIEVE THEY SHOULD BE OFFERED AT NO COST (SEE ALSO "GENERAL COMMENTS" ON USE OF FMS PROCEDURES, PARA 4 BELOW).

PARA 4 (G). CONCUR WITH REFTEL.

PARA 4 (H). ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, TWO PATROL CRAFT, FAST, BEAR NUMBERS P-121 AND P-123.

PARA 4 (I). NUMBER SHOULD BE HQ-3909. CRAFT, WHICH UNDER CONTROL OF RTN, IS UNSERVICEABLE.

PARA 4 (J). FOLLOWING ARE CORRECTIONS TO DATA IN REFTEL: TWELVE O-1 AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE THIRTEEN. (INSTEAD OF THESE AIRCRAFT, WE RECOMMEND OFFERING THAI ALL FIFTEEN VIETNAM-ORIGIN O-1'S, INCLUDING THREE LISTED IN REFTEL PARA 4 (C), AT NO COST); ONE T-41 AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE DELETED; TWO 1/4T M-151A-1 TRUCKS SHOULD BE THREE; EIGHTEEN TRAILERS SHOULD BE THIRTEEN; FOUR TRACTOR DOZERS ED-21 SHOULD BE FOUR TRACTORS HD-21; FOUR TRACTORS HD-2-1/2 SHOULD BE DELETED; FOUR 60-MILLIMETER MORTARS M-19SHOULD BE TWO; ONE MODULATION METER MNS-7 CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED BY US.

PARA 5 (A). THERE ARE IN THAILAND THIRTY-ONE  
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(NOT TWENTY-FOUR) T-28D AIRCRAFT, PLUS THE FOURTEEN T-28B'S AND ONE T-28 OF UNKNOWN SERIES.

PARA 6 (A). THE THAI ARE COMMITTED TO TURN IN FOUR C-123B AIRCRAFT IN RETURN FOR THE TEN C-123K'S ALREADY OFFERED TO THEM. THEY BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT RETENTION OF THE FOUR C-123B'S WOULD GREATLY ENHANCE THEIR AIRLIFT CAPABILITIES, AND WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO KEEP THEM. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THESE C-123B'S

ARE UNIQUE, IN THAT THEIR NOSE GEAR SYSTEM DIFFERS FROM THAT OF LATER MODELS. THIS COULD PRESENT A PROBLEM TO THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE, WHICH WOULD BE NOT ONLY INTRODUCING A NEW AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE SYSTEM BUT WOULD ALSO FACE A SEVERE SUPPORT PROBLEM IN OBTAINING PARTS, AGE, AND TOOLING. IN-COMMISSION RATE ON THESE AIRCRAFT IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN EVEN WITH PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE EXPERIENCE, PARTICULARLY ON THE ENGINE. TRANSFER OF THESE AIRCRAFT, THEREFORE, WOULD UNNECESSARILY BRUISE THAI SENSITIVITIES WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ADDING TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE INDONESIAN AIR FORCE.

PARA 6 (F). SEE COMMENTS IN PARA 4 (D) ABOVE.

PARA 11. WE CONCUR IN THIRD-COUNTRY SALE OF AC-119G AND AC-119K AIRCRAFT. AS TO THE SEVEN T-28D AIRCRAFT, WE URGE RTG BE AUTHORIZED TO STRIP THESZ AIRCRAFT FOR SERVICEABLE OR REPARABLE PARTS AND ASSEMBLIES PRIOR TO PDO ACTION. WE CONCUR IN PDO SALE OF A-1E, A-1H, A-U24 AND U-10B AIRCRAFT. THE ARMY LANDING CRAFT ARE ALREADY WAITING TRANSPORTATION FOR RETURN TO U.S. ARMY. THESE HAVE NEVER LOST U.S. TITLE. M-113 PERSONNEL CARRIERS ARE UNDER CONTROL OF RTMC, CONDITION UNKNOWN. THAI WILL BE EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO RELEASE THEM AND WE RECOMMAND TRANSFER TO RTG "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" AT NO COST. WE ALSO RECOMMEND NO-COST TURNOVER TO RTG OF THE TRUCKS, 2 1/2 TM35A2, ROUGH TERRAIN FORK LIFT, 105 MM HOWITZERS (WHICH ARE UNDER CONTROL OF RTA), 106 MM RECOILESS RIFLES (CONTROL OF RTA), AN/PRC 77 RADIOS (CORRECT QUANTITY IS TWO), AN/PRC25 RADIOS (SIX ARE UNDER CONTROL OF RTA, CONDITION UNKNOWN; THIRTEEN ARE REPORTED AS CONDITION CODE #), AN/GRC 125 RADIO, OSCILLOSCOPE USM281 AND GENERATOR SIGNAL, TS-452 (WE NOTE THESE

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LAST TWO ITEMS ARE DOUBLE-LISTED AND ARE EARMARKED FOR TURN-OVER TO THAI IN PARA 4), SIGHT M-45, AND UH-1 HUB ASSEMBLIES, FUSELAGES, TAIL BOOMS, MAIN ROTO HUBS AND TRANSMISSIONS.

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-05

EB-07 IGA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /065 W

----- 084012

O R 051304Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9089

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

JCS WASHDC

CSA WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

CMC WASHDC

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 BANGKOK 16076

AS TO CONEX CONTAINERS (LOADED), THESE HAVE  
SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN UNLOADED. CONTENTS WERE MISCELLANEOUS  
SMALL WEAPONS. WE RECOMMEND THESE BE TURN OVER TO  
RTG. WE CONCUR IN RECOMMENDATION TO RETURN TO U.S.  
ARMY SWITCHBOARD SB-22.

PARA 12. IF THAI AGREE TO REMOVAL OF VARIOUS  
ITEMS FROM THAILAND, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST TO  
REMOVE THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER AGREEMENT IS  
OBTAINED. AS LONG AS EQUIPMENT REMAINS IN THAILAND,  
IT REPRESENTS POLITICAL PROBLEM. MOREOVER, THE  
THAI ARE CURRENTLY PERFORMING MAINTENANCE ON SOME  
ITEMS PROPOSED IN REFTEL FOR OFFER TO THIRD COUNTRIES.  
IF THE THAI AGREE TO RELEASE THESE ITEMS, MAINTENANCE  
WOULD PROBABLY CEASE IMMEDIATELY WITH CONSEQUENT  
DETERIORATION OF EQUIPMENT.

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2. THE FOREGOING COMMENTS CORRECT FACTUAL ERRORS  
IN REFTEL. IN ADDITION, OUR RECORDS INCLUDE ITEMS  
NOT COVERED BY REFTEL (CONSPICUOUSLY, THIRTEEN  
O-1 AIRCRAFT). WE ARE POUCHING TO STATE/EA/TB A

COMPLETE COMPUTER RUN COVERING ALL ITEMS KNOWN TO US (AND ALREADY REPORTED TO WASHINGTON BY CHIEF MEDTC AND MACTHAI), EXCEPT THOSE LISTED IN MACTHAI DTG 010715Z AUG 75, PARA 2. MACTHAI SEPARATELY POUCHING COPY TO DSAA.

3. GENERAL COMMENTS. ADDRESSEES ARE ALREADY AWARE OF THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF THE ISSUE POSED FOR THAILAND BY THE PRESENCE HERE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM. HANOI AND SAIGON HAVE AGAIN TAKEN UP THE CUDGELS (SEE BANGKOK 15527 AND 15699), AND IT APPEARS THAT THE VIETNAM-ORIGIN EQUIPMENT MAY BE TURNING INTO A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE RTG'S PATH TO BETTER RELATIONS WITH HANOI. WE THUS CANNOT PREDICT WHAT THE THAI REACTION TO OUR DISPOSITION PROPOSAL WILL BE, BUT WE MUST EXPECT HEAVY GOING.

4. SUCCESS WILL HING TO SOME EXTENT ON THE ATTRACTIVE-NESS TO THE THAI MILITARY OF WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER THAILAND. FROM THAT STANDPOINT, THE PACKAGE PROPOSED IN REFTEL IS NOT A BAD ONE, PARTICULARLY IF IT IS IMPROVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR SUGGESTIONS ABOVE. HOWEVER, ASKING THE THAI TO PAY FOR THOSE ITEMS EARMARKED IN REFTEL FOR HANDLING UNDER FMS PROCEDURES WILL BE A MAJOR SOUR NOTE, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE HAVE ALREADY TRANSFERRED COST-FREE THE PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED ITEMS, WHICH WERE GENERALLY IN BETTER CONDITION THAN THESE NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION. WHILE WE ARE WILLING TO TRY IT OUT ON THE THAI, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY PREFERABLE IF SOME WAY COULD BE FOUND TO MAKE ITEMS LISTED IN REFTEL PARA 4 (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) AND (I) AVAILABLE AT NO COST. THE AMOUNTS OF MONEY INVOLVED, WHILE NOT GREAT BY OUR STANDARDS, WILL BE SIGNIFICANT TO THE THAI, AND SEEKING TO CHARGE THE THAI FOR WHAT THEY SEE AS A  
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POLITICAL EMBARRASSMENT CREATED BY US WILL APPEAR INSENSITIVE AND PENNY-PINCHING.  
WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

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